

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 02696 280928Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 /103 W

----- 094412

R 280735Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9051

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2696

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, CN, FR, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR USG RECOGNITION OF STATE OF COMORO

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 2655

1. SUMMARY: MUHAMAD ALI MBAYE, PUBLICITY SECRETARY MOLINACO, CALLED AT EMBASSY JULY 25 AND PROVIDED VIEW OF SITUATION IN COMORO CONCLUDING WITH REQUEST FOR USG RECOGNITION. END SUMMARY

2. MBAYE OPENED WITH A BRIEF HISTORY OF MOLINACO WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS FOUNDED IN 1962 WITH ITS PROVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN DAR ES SALAAM SINCE ALL INDEPENDENCE ACTIVITY WAS BANNED BY FRENCH IN COMORO. MBAYE SAID MOLINACO HAS HAD PRESENCE AT THE UN SINCE 71-72.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAR ES 02696 280928Z

3. MBAYE SAID 6 JULY 4 P.M. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE OF COMORO BY THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN THE CAPITAL OF MORONI WAS FORCED BY CONTINUATION OF FRENCH FOOT-DRAGGING ON INDEPENDENCE PROMISES GOING BACK TO 1945. INCIDENT WHICH PRODUCED UDI WAS FRENCH LEGAL AND ELECTORAL EFFORT TO SEPARATE MAYOTTE, SOUTHERNMOST OF COMORO ISLANDS, IN ORDER TO RETAIN MILITARY BASE OPTION THERE. THIS WAS TOTALLY UN-ACCEPTABLE TO ALL POLITICAL GROUPINGS IN COMORO. IT WAS ALSO UNNECESSARY, SAID MBAYE, SINCE FRENCH HOLD ON REUNION REMAINS STRONG.

4. MBAYE SAID EFFORT TO INFORM WORLD OF SITUATION HINDERED BY TRANSPORTATION IN AND OUT OF MORONI WHICH LIMITED TO ONE FLIGHT A WEEK BY AIR MADAGASCAR AND ONE FLIGHT A WEEK BY AIR COMORO, BOTH COMPANIES BEING QTE AIR FRANCE IN DISGUISE UNQTE. FLIGHTS FREQUENTLY DELAYED OR CANCELLED WHEN COMORO INDEPENDENCE LEADERS AND NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MUST TRAVEL ABROAD. ALL TELEGRAMS IN AND OUT OF MORONI MUST GO THROUGH PARIS WITH MESSAGES DELAYED AND CRITICAL ONES OFTEN LOST. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION DEALT WITH SIMILARLY BY FRENCH.

5. MBAYE DESCRIBED PRESENT STATE OF PLAY IN COMOROS:

A. FRENCH GOVERNOR, CIVIL SERVANTS AND ALL FRENCH MILITARY NOW EFFECTIVELY WITHDRAWN FROM ALL OTHER ISLANDS TO MAYOTTE.

B. AS FRENCH PLANTERS AND BUSINESSMEN LEAVE, ALL FUNDS BEING TRANSFERRED OUT OF COUNTRY, LEAVING ECONOMY AND GOVERNMENT BANKRUPT.

C. THERE ARE NO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY KIND IN MORONI.

6. MBAYE GAVE GOALS OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF STATE OF COMORO AS FOLLOWS:

A. TERRITORIAL -- TO COMPEL FRENCH TO LEAVE MAYOTTE BY POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE, NOT GUERRILLA WARFARE.

B. POLITICAL -- NEW CONSTITUTION AND ELECTIONS TO REPLACE PRESENT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE PLACE WITHIN SIX MONTHS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DAR ES 02696 280928Z

C. ECONOMIC -- SINCE 80 PERCENT OF RAW MATERIAL FOR FRENCH PERFUME INDUSTRY COMES FROM COMORO, QTE WE EXPECT FRENCH ECONOMIC INTERESTS TO OVERRIDE MILITARY, RELINQUISH MAYOTTE AND RESTART FRENCH TRADE AND CLOSE ASSOCIATION UNQTE. NO AID BEING ASKED FOR FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES AT THIS TIME.

D. FOREIGN POLICY -- ALL COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT YET ANNOUNCED

RECOGNITION OF COMORO ARE REQUESTED TO DO SO, INCLUDING U.S.
ALL OAU MEMBERS HAVE ANNOUNCED RECOGNITION ALONG WITH YUGOSLAVIA,
CHINA, JAPAN QTE AND OTHERS UNQTE (WHEN QUERIED BY US ABOUT COMORO
RECOGNITION JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE SAID QTE NOT YET UNQTE).

7. MBAYE SAID STATE OF COMORO REPRESENTATIVES IN KAMPALA HEADED
BY FOREIGN MINISTER ALIM MROUDJZE, FORMER MINISTER OF EDUCATION
UNDER FRENCH. OTHER REPRESENTATIVES NOW IN MOGADISCIO, NAIROBI, JIDDA
AND NEW YORK. HEAD OF STATE IS PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT AHMED ABDALLAH.
MBAYE CONCLUDED WITH HOPE THAT U.S. WOULD QTE TELL FRANCE THE FACTS
OF LIFE UNQTE, THAT COMORO WISHES TO REMAIN FRIENDS WITH FRANCE
AND THAT THE MAYOTTE ADVENTURE MUST END. WE AGREED INFORM
WASHINGTON OF CONTENTS MBAYE'S APPROACH.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: IF DEPT INTENDS TO ANNOUNCE RECOGNITION
COMORO, SUGGEST WE BE ALLOWED TO INFORM MBAYE INFORMALLY IN
ADVANCE. HE PRESENTED HIMSELF AS HAVING BEEN IN THE COMORO
INDEPENDENCE BUSINESS FOR MANY YEARS AND SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDED
STANDARD LIBERATION MOVEMENT RHETORIC IN HIS MODERATE PRESENTATION.
FOR WHATEVER IT MIGHT BE WORTH IN THE FUTURE, WE COULD AFFORD
HIM ADVANCE NEWS OF THIS INEVITABLE SUCCESS, UNLESS USG ALREADY
IN COMMUNICATION ELSEWHERE WITH NEW COMORON GOVERNMENT.
CARTER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMORO, RECOGNITION, INDEPENDENCE, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DARES02696
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750259-0681
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750713/aaaaalxg.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DAR ES SALAAM 2655
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR USG RECOGNITION OF STATE OF COMORO
TAGS: PDEV, CN, FR, US, (MBAYE, MUHAMED ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006